

Message Text

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ACTION PM-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 EB-11 OMB-01 TRSE-00 AID-20 IGA-02

SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 DRC-01

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O P 171244Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE NIACT 9070

SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

INFO MCINCPAC PRIORITY

USIA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 19488

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, EAID, TH

SUBJECT: FY 74 FOREIGN ASSISTANCE LEGISLATION RESTRICTION

REF: A. STATE 245401

B. BANGKOK 19019

C. MACTHAI 290535Z SEPT. 73

D. BANGKOK 9557

RLOKNCDGGORFOAZNBIUYRTVUI###

SLN HCU SVKEN PLACE SINCE JUNE 1,
1973:

A. VISIT BETAMERICAN AND THIRD-COUNTRY PRESS TO
UTAPAO, 3 AUGUST 1973.

B. VISIT BY AMERICAN AND THIRD-COUNTRY PRESS TO KORAT,
15 AUG. 1973. (SOME THAI PRESS ARRIVED, UNINVITED, AT
THE GATE AND WERE ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE.)

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C. VISIT BY AMERICAN AND THIRD-COUNTRY PRESS TO UTAPAO,

15 AUG. 1973. (SOME THAI PRESS ARRIVED, UNINVITED, AT THE GATE, AND WERE ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE.)

D. VISIT BY AMERICAN, THIRD-COUNTRY, AND THAI PRESS TO NAM PHONG, 1 SEPT. 1973.

E. VISIT BY CBS NEWS TO NAKORN PHANOM (JCRC) TO COVER LEAGUE OF FAMILIES VISIT THERE, 20 OCT. 1973. (SEVERAL OTHER AMERICAN NEWS ORGANIZATIONS WERE INVITED, BUT ALL EXCEPT CBS DECLINED.)

2. DURING THIS PERIOD, THE MISSION MADE SIX REQUESTS INVOLVING US JOURNALISTS TO THE RTG, WHICH APPROVED THE FIVE ABOVE AND REJECTED A REQUEST TO TAKE A GROUP OF AMERICAN AND THIRD-COUNTRY CWSMEN TO JCRC AT NAKORN PHANOM. THIS WAS TURNED DOWN BY THE RTG ON JUNE 20, WITH THE COMMENT "WE WILL TELL YOU WHEN IT WILL BE POSSIBLE FOR NEWSMEN TO VISIT NAKORN PHANOM AIR BASE" (REF D). (PLEASE NOTE IN PARAGRAPH 1 THAT SINCE THEN THE RTG HAS GIVEN PERMISSION FOR THE OCT. 20 VISIT TO JCRC.)

3. SINCE AUGUST 1972, WHEN THE THAIS BECAME MORE FLEXIBLE ON BASE VISITS 7 THEY HAVE NOT USED SECURITY AS A GROUNDS FOR TURNING DOWN REQUESTS. THEIR REASONING SEEMS TO BE THAT THE VISITS ARE TO THE AMERICAN FACILITIES ON THE BASES AND THAT WE ARE BEST JUDGES OF SECURITY IMPLICATIONS. IN THE CASE OF THE JUNE 20 TURNDOWN NO EXPLANATION WAS GIVEN. WE INFERRED FROM OTHER THINGS THAT WERE SAID AT ABOUT THE SAME TIME THAT THE RTG WAS SENSITIVE ABOUT THE PRESENCE ON THEIR SOIL OF THE USSAG HQ.

4.BQ DOD TURNED DOWN (TELEPHONICALLY) A MISSION REQUEST FOR ARNOLD ISAACS (BALTIMORE SUN) AND LARRY GREENE (CHICAGO DAILY NEWS) TO VISIT INSTALLATIONS DURING OCTOBER 1973. ALSO, WE STILL HAVE RECEIVED NO REPLY TO OUR REQUEST IN REF B FOR WASHINGTON PERMISSION TO APPROACH THE RTG ON BEHALF OF FOISIE (L.A. TIMES) AND KAYLOR (UPI). IN THE MEANTIME, KAYLOR HAS LEFT TOWN FOR A FEW WEEKS, AND A THIRD NEWSMAN, DICK BLYSTONE (AP), HAS ASKED CINCPAC PUBLIC AFFAIRS LIAISON OFFICE FOR PERMISSION TO VISIT A BASE. WOULD
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APPRECIABLE WASHINGTON GUIDANCE ON THE U.S. POSITION ON NEWSMEN VISITING THE BASES AT THIS TIME (PER PARA 6, REF. B).
KINTNER

NOTE BY OCT: ### AS RECEIVED;
CORRECTION TO FOLLOW.

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